

What is database? - A Word Definition From the Webopedia Comput...

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## database

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(1) Often abbreviated *DB*, A collection of information organized in such a way that a computer program can quickly select desired pieces of data. You can think of a database as an electronic filing system.

Traditional databases are organized by fields, records, and files. A field is a single piece of information; a record is one complete set of fields; and a file is a collection of records. For example, a telephone book is analogous to a file. It contains a list of records, each of which consists of three fields: name, address, and telephone number.

An alternative concept in database design is known as Hypertext. In a Hypertext database, any object, whether it be a piece of text, a picture, or a film, can be linked to any other object. Hypertext databases are particularly useful for organizing large amounts of disparate information, but they are not designed for numerical analysis.

To access information from a database, you need a database management system (DBMS). This is a collection of programs that enables you to enter, organize, and select data in a database.

(2) Increasingly, the term *database* is used as shorthand for *database management system*.

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If you are an ASPing developer seeking a solid foundation in dynamic Web site creation, then look no further. This article details how to connect to a SQL Server 7.0 database using ActiveX Data Object (ADO) and Open Database Connectivity (ODBC).

### Database Journal

An excellent resource for database professionals.

### Database Systems Laboratory

This site hosts the Database Systems Laboratory at the University of Massachusetts and contains information on their research projects and related documentation. In addition, there is an extensive list of resources for database research and development areas.

### CompassPoint home page

This page highlights CompassPoint, a visual database that helps users catalogue, archive and distribute digital images.

### Database articles archive

This site hosts a collection of articles accessible by subject (RDBMS, GIS, Object Oriented, deductive, data mining, etc.) or author name. New articles are added frequently.

### Database software buyers directory

Offers a collection of links to database software companies and products. This page is hosted by LAN Times Online.

### SEO Resources

A list of Web sites that deal specifically with the issue of optimizing pages for search engines.

### Yahoo!'s database companies page

Yahoo!'s directory of database companies.

### Yahoo!'s database software page

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**Alpha Software: Database Application Download** - Developer of database management software. Customizable solutions include application building capabilities, contact and list management and more.

**Alpha Software: Billing Databases** - Offers Alpha Five database development tool with intuitive interface. Build database applications that track, report, and manage any information.

**CNET Shopper.com: Database Software** - Find low prices on tech products at CNET Shopper.com. Compare prices, shipping and browse detailed store profiles.

**eBay: Database Software** - Online marketplace for buying and selling database software.

**BizRate.com: Database Software Comparison Shopping** - BizRate.com offers price comparisons, consumer reviews, product features, and store ratings from over 2,000 stores across the web.

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